



CITY OF ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tom Hubbard, Fire Chief Rich Malizia, Assistant Chief

April 10, 2013

Mayor Simpson,

I respectfully submit to you and the City Council the Aberdeen Fire Department's annual report for 2012. This report provides an overview of department operations and delivery of service.

The City of Aberdeen provides fire protection within the city boundaries servicing 16,890 residents over 10.5 square miles. In addition, we provide fire and/or EMS protection to Fire Districts 10 and 15, Cosmopolis, Bigelow Drive and Stafford Creek Corrections. Fire and EMS are provided through two fire stations staffed 24/7 at each facility.

In 2012 the Aberdeen Fire Department responded to a total of 4767 calls for service. Structure fire losses for the year totaled \$1.9 million vs. \$2.1 million in property saved. There were ten fire incidents during the year that required a second alarm or greater in which resources beyond the daily staffing were needed to manage the incident. Total call volumes for fire, emergency medical, and medical calls requiring a fire engine to respond with an ambulance for additional manpower are shown below.

422 Fire Responses (21 Hazardous Materials)
817 Engine Medical Assists
4345 Emergency Medical Responses

The department's average response time to structure fires within the city limits was 5 minutes 16 seconds. This includes an average two minutes of "turnout time" or the time it takes from initial dispatch to the first unit responding. This falls within the National Fire Protection Agency's goal for a fire department to arrive within six minutes to an incident 90% of the time.

Keeping in line with the national fire service trend, the majority of the department's call volume was for emergency medical calls. A detailed analysis of our medical responses is included later in this report; however, we are pleased to report that in 2012 the department had 122 documented medical saves. These are patients who most likely would not have survived before arriving at Grays Harbor Community Hospital without medical intervention by our staff. EMS response time averaged 5 minutes within the city from time of dispatch to arrival on scene.

We are pleased to report that we were able to continue our grade school fire and injury prevention education programs. Our public education team was active throughout the year addressing various civic, educational, and industrial groups with the goal of improving their personal and worksite safety.

After 35 years of service with the fire department, Fire Chief Dave Carlberg retired in September. Chief Carlberg began his career with the fire department in 1978 and culminated his career by serving as Fire Chief for fourteen years. His leadership and vision were instrumental in providing for the growth of the fire department and the safety of the citizens we serve.

I would like to thank the various team leaders and staff members who helped compile the material for this annual report. I would also like to thank the City Council and the Public Safety Committee for the immense support they have given the department. Together we have made important contributions towards providing for the safety and welfare of our citizens.

Respectfully,

Tom Hubbard, Fire Chief
City of Aberdeen

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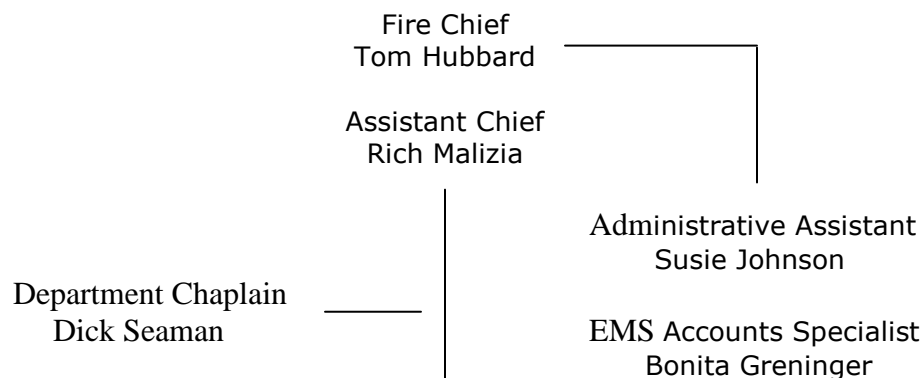
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Cover by FF/P Dave Swinhart – September 12, 2012 – 2nd Alarm Residential Fire at 721 N. Broadway (*Photo by Daily World*)

ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

* Effective 2/13

Administration



Operations

SHIFT 1	SHIFT 2	SHIFT 3
Battalion Chief Damon Lillybridge S.O.	Battalion Chief Bill Mayne	Battalion Chief/P Troy Palmer
Captain JR Streifel Captain/P Dave Golding T.O.	Captain/P Wally Montz T.O. Captain Kelly Niemi T.O.	Captain Mark Dulin Captain Sam Baretich
Eng/P Steve Pratt Eng Jeremy Laier	Eng/P Todd Bradshaw Eng Chris Eisele	Eng/P Chad Mittleider Eng/P Ryan Knodel EMC
FF Mike Kolodzie FF/P Brian Peterson FF/P Brian Newbill FF/P Mike Huber FF Ryee Cline FF/P Monica Myers	FF/P Dave Swinhart FF/P Trevor Wheeler FF/P Brad Frafjord FF/P Jordan Scott FF Wayne Fournier FF/P Adam Catterlin	FF/P Chris Raffelson FF Kevin Craig FF/P Isaac Gustafson FF/P David Schreier FF/P Mike Hughes FF/P Zach Musgrove

EMC - Emergency Medical Coordinator
T.O. - Department Training Officer
S.O. - Department Safety Officer

2012 Retirees

Fire Chief Dave Carlberg

2012 Promotions

Fire Chief Tom Hubbard
Battalion Chief Troy Palmer
Captain Sam Baretich
Engineer Jeremy Laier

2012 New Hires

FF/P Monica Myers

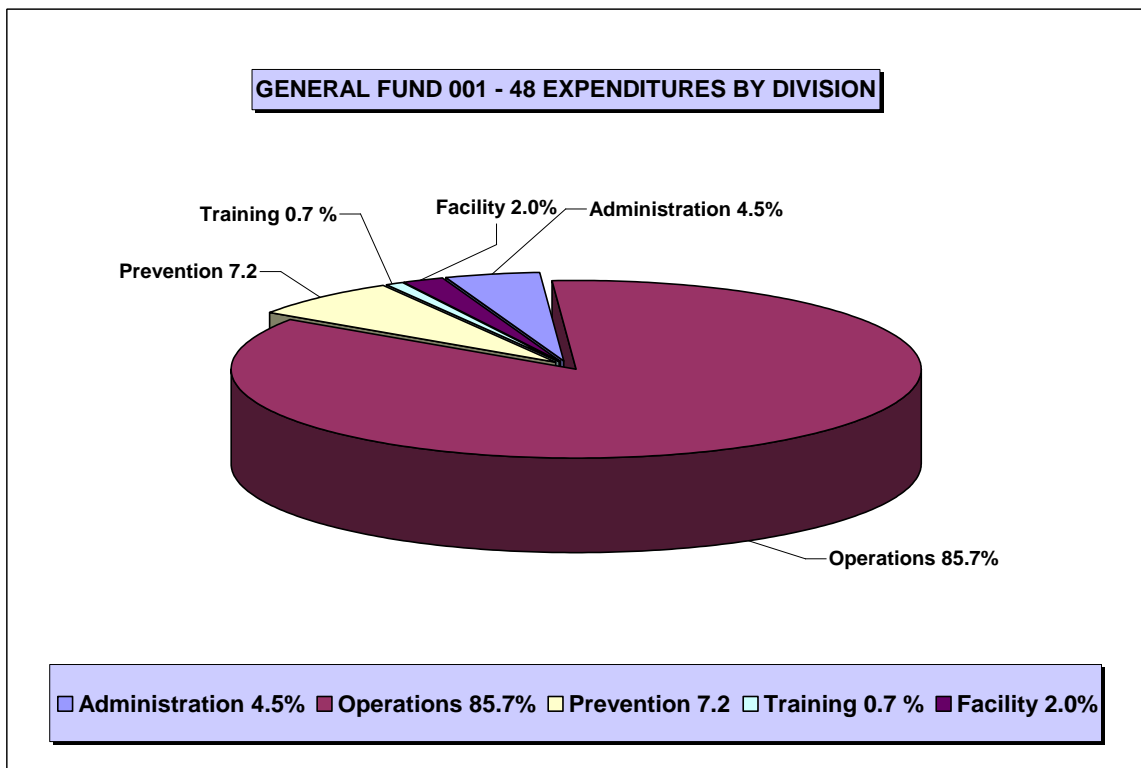
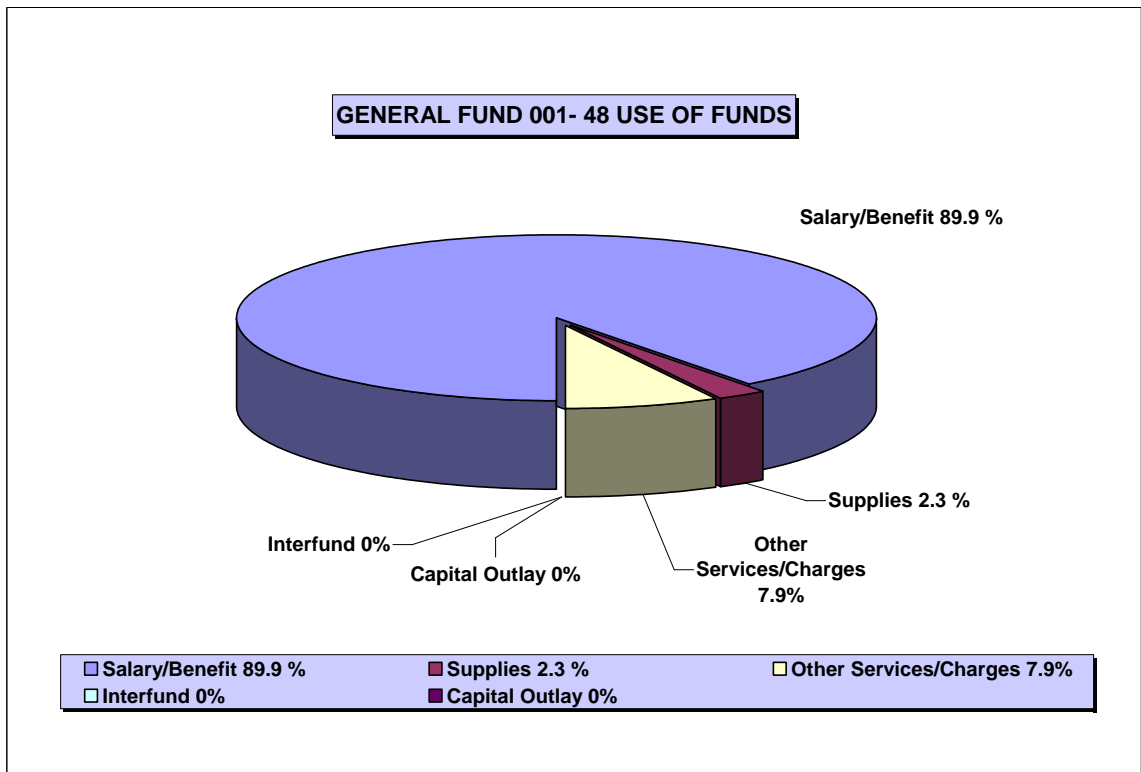


ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

To prevent harm to the public, and to protect property and the environment through fire suppression, fire prevention and emergency medical services 24 hours a day.

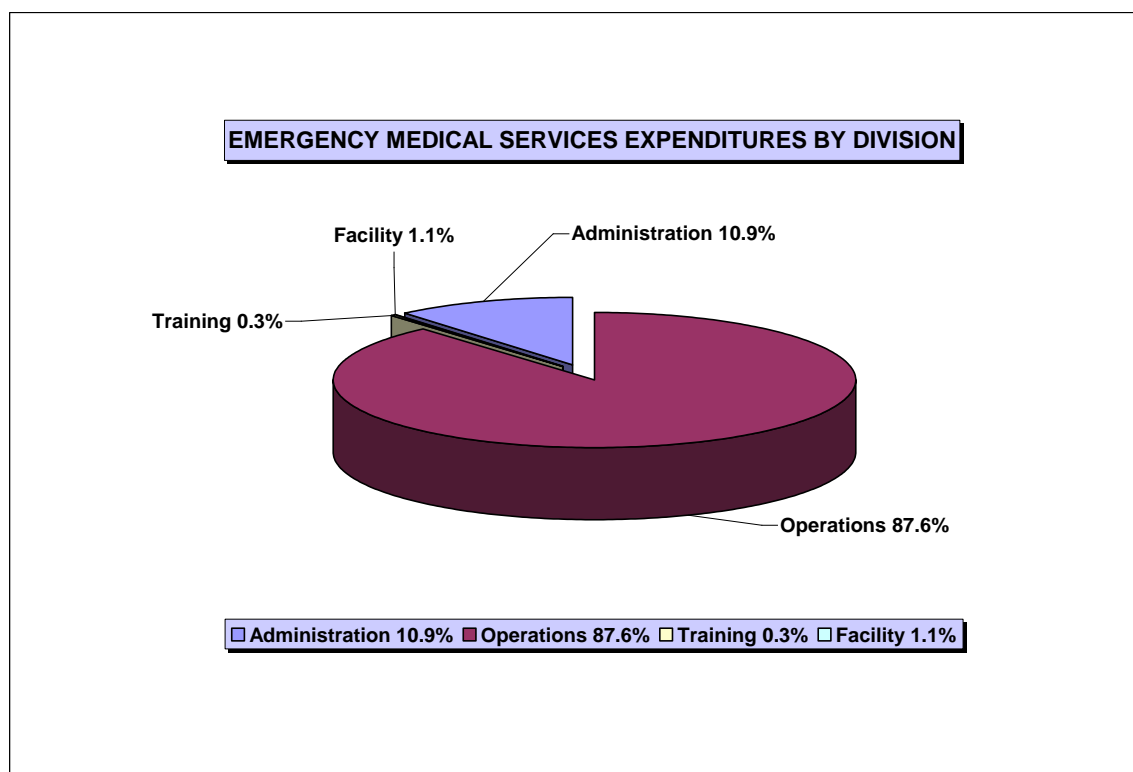
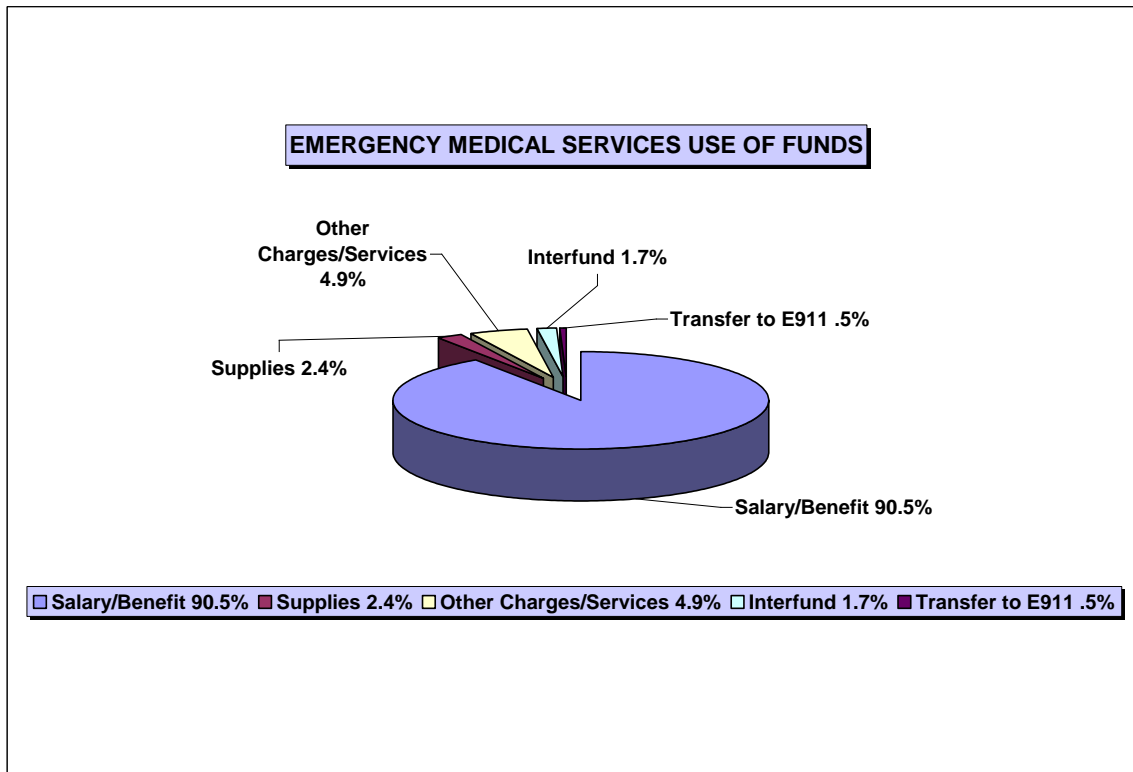
Fire Department Operating Costs - 001-48

In 2012, the cost of operating fire protection services totaled \$1,716,322. Salary and Benefit compensation accounts for the largest portion of the budget dollar (89.9%).



2012 EMS Operating Costs - 120-00

In 2012 the cost of operating emergency medical services totaled \$3,029,838. Salary and Benefit compensation accounts for the largest portion of the budget dollar (90.5%).



Aberdeen Fire Department Administrative Annex

In 2011 the City of Aberdeen acquired the building immediately to the west of the central fire station for additional office space. Remodeling of the former pawn shop began in the spring of 2011. The Administrative Staff of the fire department moved into their offices in May of 2012. This project could not have been accomplished without the many hours of work put in by the line and administrative staff of the fire department and the work of the city's electricians and carpenters.



Administrative and Headquarters Fire Station



Administrative Office Complex

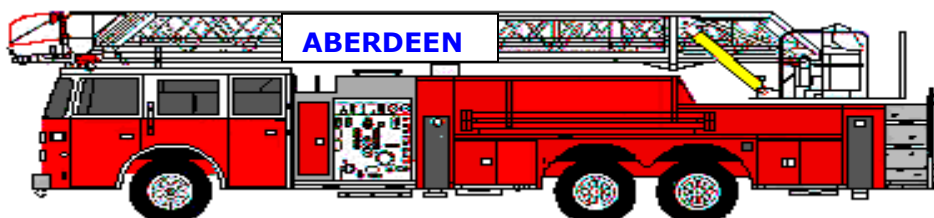


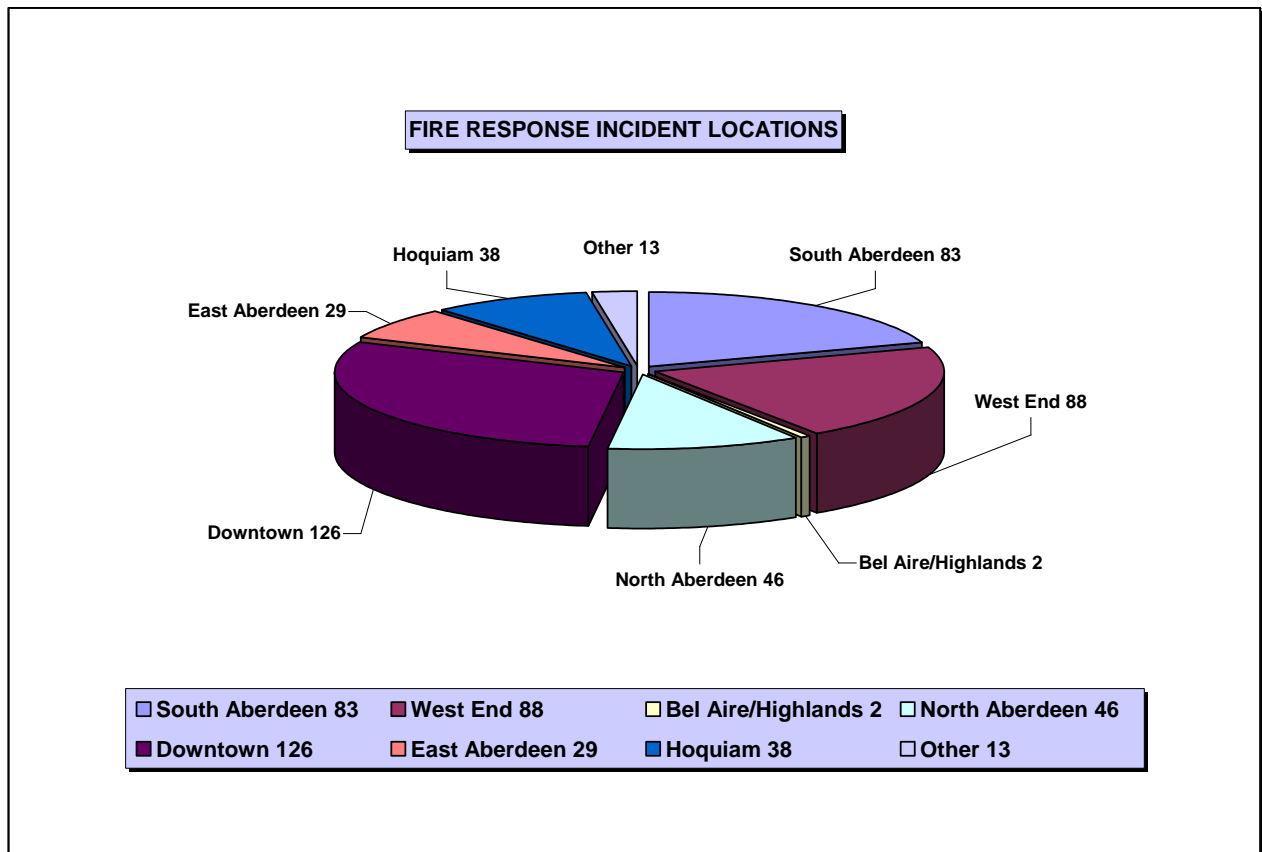
Main area for fire administration services and EMS billing

2012 INCIDENT RESPONSE DATA

Fire department operations are handled from the north side headquarters station #1 and one sub station #2 located in south Aberdeen. Operations consist of three shifts supervised by a battalion chief. Thirty-three uniformed firefighters staff Fire & EMS operations. All personnel are cross-trained as firefighters and either emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
• Bridge Openings	224	255
• Building Fires	22	20
• Structure fires, (second alarm or greater)	10	9
• Hazardous Materials	21	21
• Vehicle Fire	6	16
• Natural Vegetation Fire	13	20
• Chimney Fire	10	9
• Trash Fire	23	25
• False Alarm	164	160
• Rescue	6	9
• Intentional Caused Fires	4	3
• Undetermined Caused Fires	17	25
• Mutual Aid Given	10	11
• Mutual Aid Received	7	4
• Automatic Response to HFD Given	25	19
• Automatic Response to HFD Received	27	18
• EMS Engine Assists	817	820
• Total EMS Call Volume	4,345	4,020
• Total FIRE Call Volume	422	392
• Civilian Fire Related Fatalities	0	0
• Civilian Fire Related Injuries	3	2
• Firefighter Injuries during fire ground operations	7	3
• TOTAL FIRE LOSS	\$1,961,354	\$1,087,106
• TOTAL PROPERTY SAVED	\$2,055,203	\$718,797





The fire department tracks fire response locations within the city. This chart shows the locations and number of fire calls per response zone.

2012 FIRE DEPARTMENT PHOTOGRAPHS



1514 N. E St



Captain Kelly Niemi & FF/P Mike Hughes



Engineer/Medic Steve Pratt & Captain Sam Baretich



Truck 7221 operations



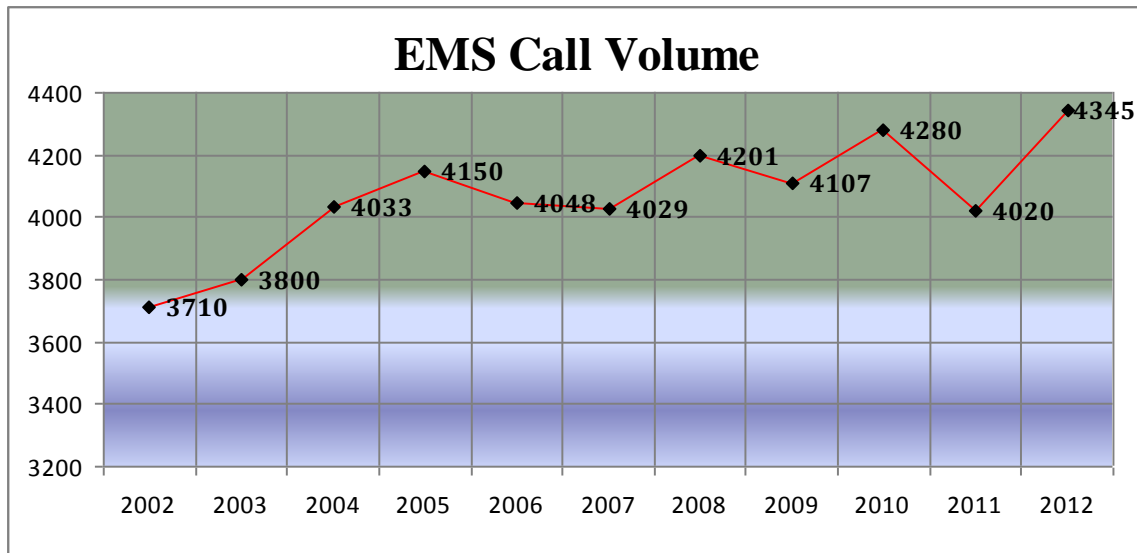
Firefighter Bail Out Training



"Mayday" training at Pioneer Park

2012 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Aberdeen Fire Department is responsible for providing emergency medical care to the citizens of the City of Aberdeen. We also provide emergency medical transport for the areas of Cosmopolis, Fire District 10 and Fire District 15. The graph below illustrates the Aberdeen Fire Department's emergency medical call volume over the past ten years.



Over the 10 years represented in this graph we had a 17% increase in call volume over that time period. From 2011 alone, we saw an 8% increase in call volume.

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

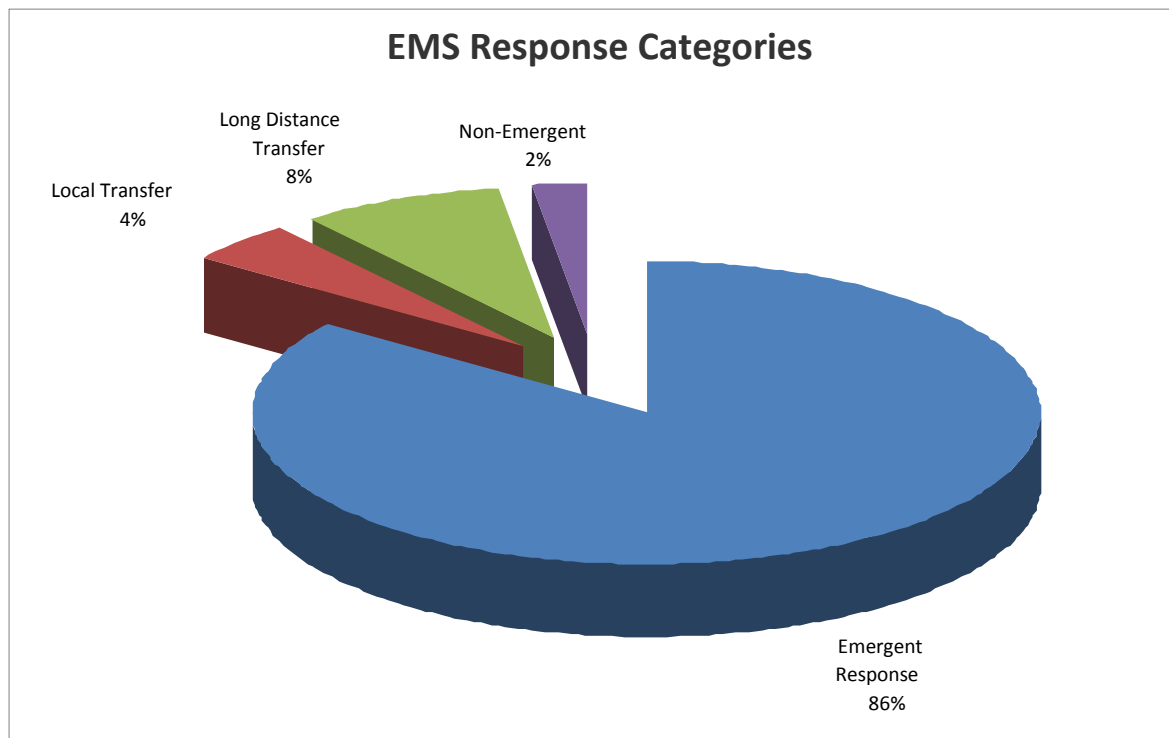
Medical responses are grouped into four categories based on their dispatch urgency and destination. The first category is emergent responses, which totaled 3,696 and accounted for 85% of our total EMS call volume. Emergent responses are calls that are dispatched through the Grays Harbor E911 center to our department. Our average response time from time of dispatch to arrival on scene within the city limits of Aberdeen was 5 minutes, which is slightly above the national average of 4 minutes. This can be attributed to a new departmental policy that does not require us to use lights and sirens on non-priority 911 dispatches. We are currently exploring ways to filter out these types of responses which should lower our average response times within the City of Aberdeen.

The second category is local transfers, which totaled 191 and accounted for 4.4% of our total EMS call volume. Local transfers consist of transporting patients between Grays Harbor Community Hospital and skilled nursing facilities, home residences, and diagnostic testing facilities within the city limits of Aberdeen.

The third category is long distance or out of town transfers from Grays Harbor Community Hospital to hospitals in Olympia, Tacoma and Seattle. Off duty

personnel are utilized to accomplish these transfers and we did 360 of them for 8.2% of the total call volume.

The fourth category is non-emergent or public assists of which we did 98 for 2.2% of the total. Public assist responses consist of welfare checks, lift assists, falls without injuries or general assistance to our customers who did not require an emergent response from an ambulance. The EMS response categories are shown below.



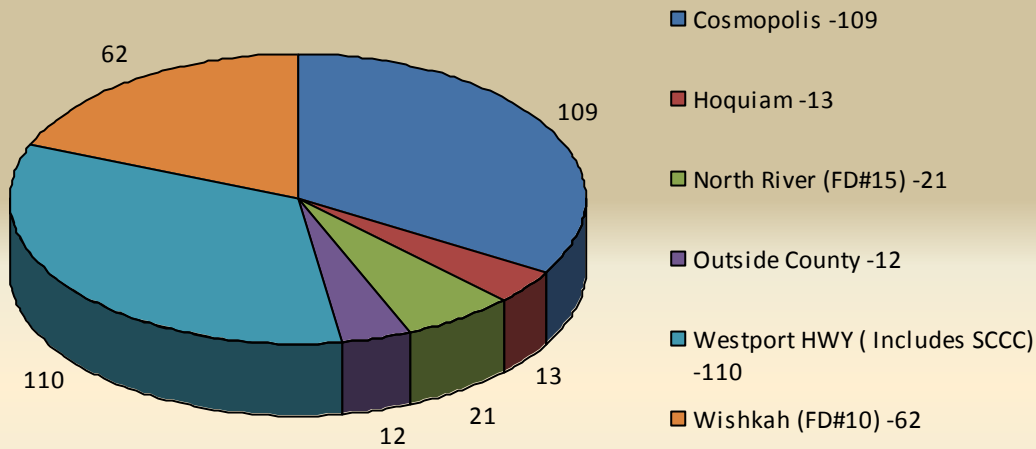
Included in our emergent responses statistics is our mutual aid responses. The following agencies responded within our response area last year to assist us:

The City of Hoquiam Fire Department: 14 times
Fire District #2: 1 time

We also responded mutual aid to the following agencies to assist them:
The City of Hoquiam: 13 times
Fire District #2: 1 time
South Beach Ambulance: 3 times

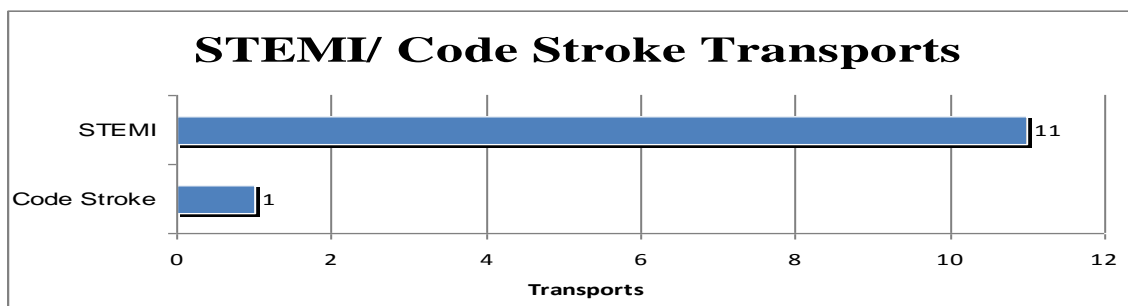
The graph on the follow page is a representation of our call volume outside the City of Aberdeen. It is important to note the number of these responses because they can take our on-duty staff out of service for an extended amount of time.

EMS Call Volume Outside City Limits



STEMI/STROKE TRANSPORTS:

Last year the State of Washington implemented a new system to treat and rapidly transport patients who were having a heart attack or stroke; this system called STEMI/Code Stroke presented us, along with the rest of the Grays Harbor County with changes in the way we treat and transport these types of patients. Using on-duty staff to transport these patients to facilities out of town created some manpower shortages for a small amount of time until we could have off-duty personnel come in to back fill their positions.

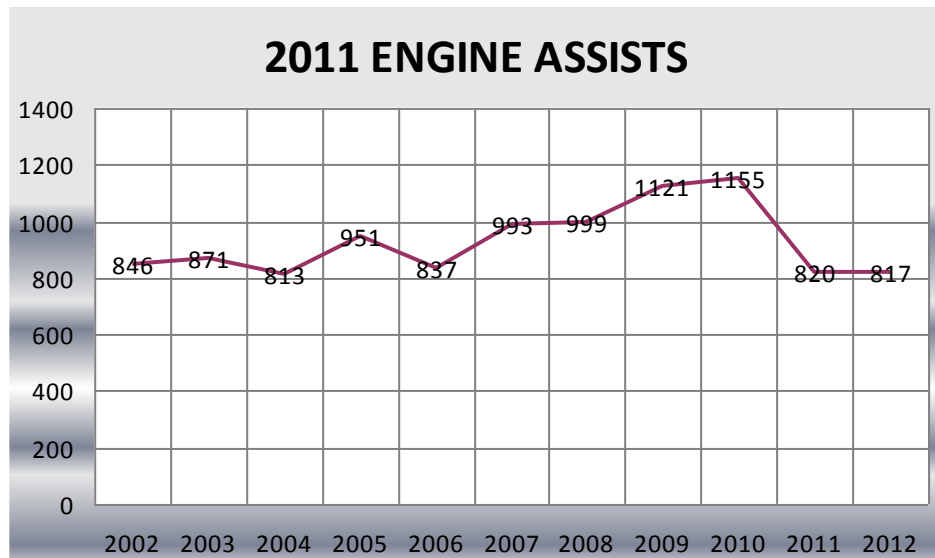


STEMI/Code Stroke transports totaled 12 emergent transports last year for approximately 40.5 man hours.

RESPONSE STATISTICS:

The Aberdeen Fire Department collects data annually to assist us in maintaining an efficient operation that is responsive to the needs of our customers. One of our data collection points is Engine Assists of which we did 817. An engine assist occurs when a fire apparatus responds with the headquarters or South Side Station

#2 ambulance on medical calls. The EMS calls that the fire apparatus respond on require additional man-power to meet the needs of the patient. These calls range from cardiac arrests, respiratory problems and strokes to motor vehicle accidents with injuries and severe trauma calls. It is important to note that while the fire apparatus is engaged on the medical call it is out of service for fire response until it has cleared from the previous call. This cross-staffing of personnel is what allows the Aberdeen Fire Department to manage such a high call volume with minimum staffing but the trade off is that our ability to manage a fire incident is at times throughout the day significantly impacted.



GRANTS:

Each year the Grays Harbor EMS Council awards grants through their EMS transit grant program, which is funded through transit. Last year we were awarded \$4,140 to purchase a ParaPac Ventilator that is currently used on our first out ambulance. This ventilator replaces our out-dated equipment and allows us to provide advanced respiratory care to all our patients who might need it.

Also, last year we received \$1,534 from the Washington State Pre-Hospital Trauma Participation Grant which is designed to help offset the high cost of providing trauma care.

MEDICAL SAVES:

During the past year the Aberdeen Fire Department documented 121 medical saves. We qualify a patient as a medical save if the patient arrives alive at Grays Harbor Community Hospital and the patient's condition most likely would have resulted in their death in the field had our crews not intervened.

OUTLOOK FOR 2013:

We are excited to start the process of planning for a new medic unit which we should take delivery of in the fall of 2013. This new medic unit will replace our oldest unit that we currently use as a reserve.

We at the Aberdeen Fire Department will continue to provide our customers with the highest quality emergency medical care available while conveying our core values of professionalism and compassion. We will also strive to provide the highest level of care while being good stewards of the tax dollars which we receive.

Ryan Knodel
Emergency Medical Coordinator

2012 FIRE INVESTIGATION/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Fire Loss

2012 ended with \$1,961,354 in fire losses. This represents an increase when compared to \$1,087,106 in fire losses for 2011. The value of property saved in 2012 was calculated at \$2,055,203. The fire loss total represents 97 fires and includes damage to residential and commercial properties, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles, dumpsters or uncontrolled outdoor burning.

All fires in our community are investigated by the fire department. Many times the cause of a fire can be determined by a simple investigation consisting of interviewing the occupants and/or witnesses and comparing their statements to the physical evidence found at the scene. Last year 48 incidents required more than a simple investigation. Formal investigations are implemented when the cause or origin is not readily apparent. The Aberdeen Police Department is often called to assist with formal investigations to provide expertise in interviewing witnesses, evidence collection, and scene documentation.

Fire Prevention

Commercial business inspections are done throughout the community in compliance with the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau and to fulfill requirements of the International Fire Code. Each shift at the Fire Department is assigned approximately 50 to 60 business inspections to complete during the year. Approximately 250 inspections were completed in 2012 including annual inspections of all the Aberdeen School District facilities and the Grays Harbor College campus. Fire Inspections serve two valuable purposes. First, preventing fires from occurring by identifying potential hazards helps keep our local businesses viable and second, our department personnel gain insight into the construction and unique characteristics of each establishment should they have to respond there in an emergency.

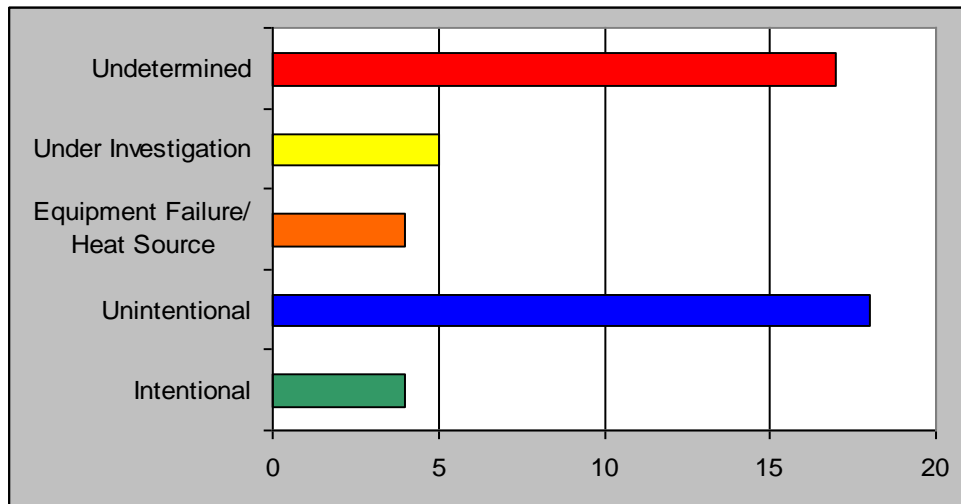
Plan Review

The Fire Marshall works cooperatively with the Planning and Building Departments of the City of Aberdeen. Plan Reviews are performed by each department to ensure compliance with the applicable building, fire, and electrical codes. Requirements for compliance with the International Fire Code are identified in the process. The Plan review phase of a project is followed by onsite inspections, which are done throughout construction of the project. The Fire Marshall performs a final inspection to confirm that the public safety components of the project are installed and functioning correctly in accordance with the plans.

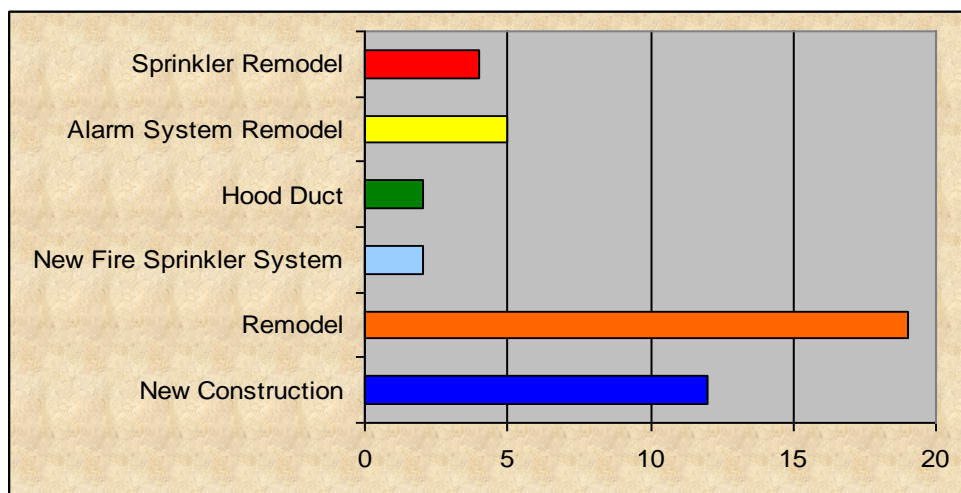
A Certificate of Occupancy (CO) is issued after the final inspections have been completed by the city departments. A CO indicates the project is in compliance with the International Fire Code, NFPA, and all other building code requirements.

The graphs included on the next page illustrate fire cause determination after investigation and the types of plan reviews performed during the year 2012.

Fire Investigation



Plan Review



Rich Malizia
Assistant Chief/Fire Marshall

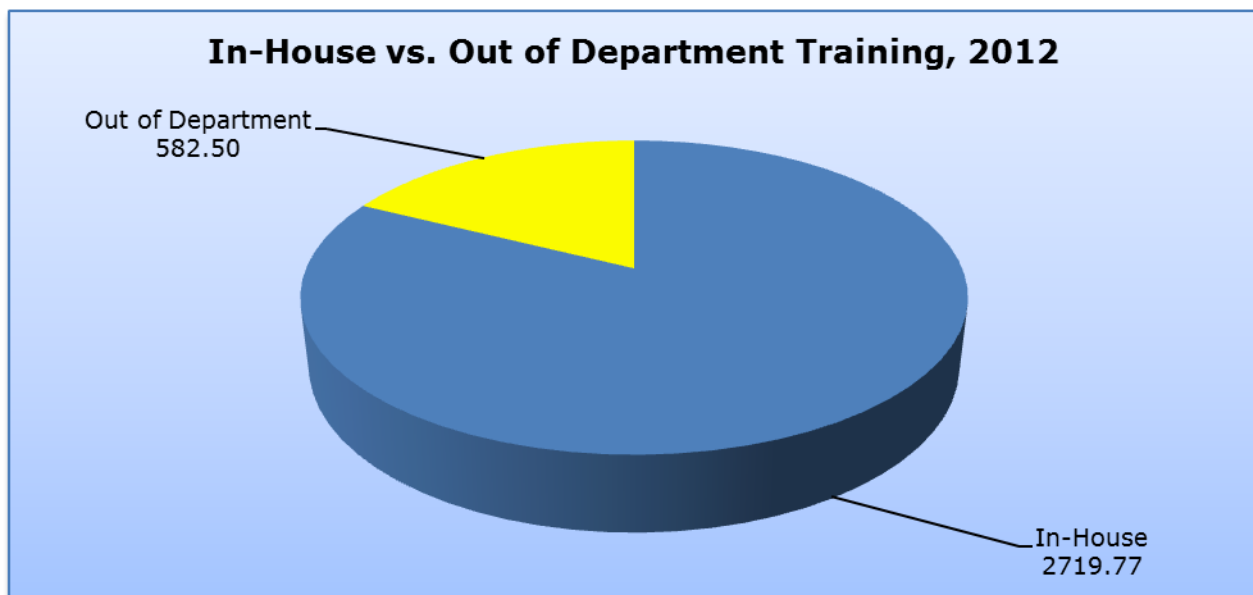
2012 TRAINING REPORT

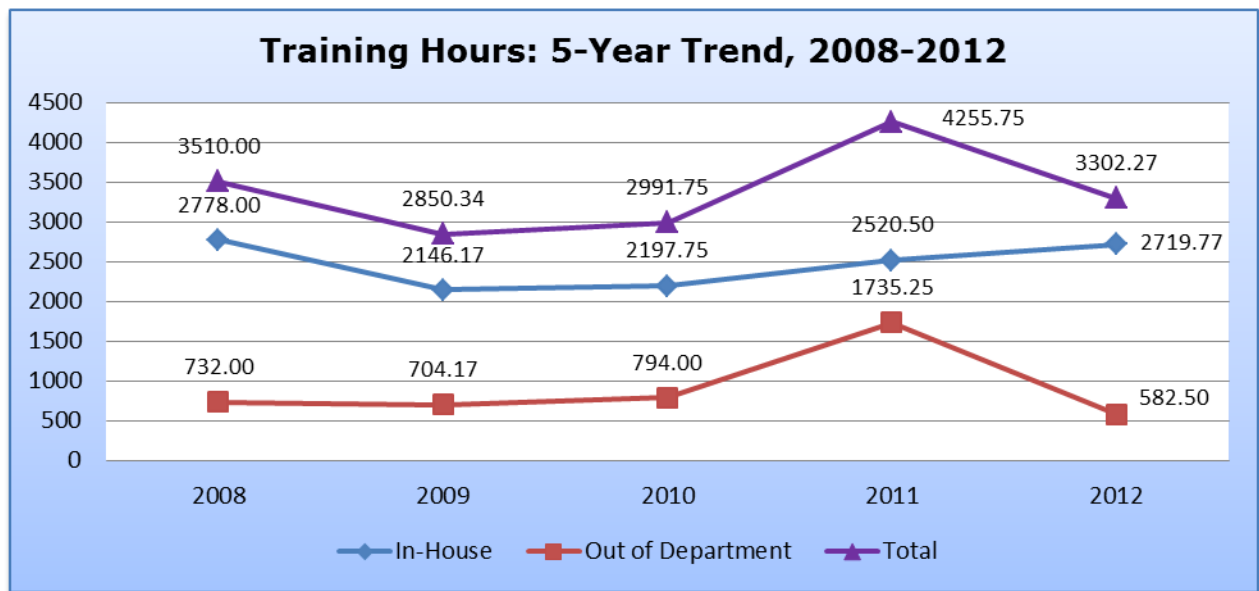
MONTHLY TRAINING

It was another busy year for the training division of the Aberdeen Fire Department as we continue to meet the mandated training requirements set forth by the State of Washington. We also provided opportunities for valuable training in the latest fire and emergency medical service practices. Highlights of the Aberdeen Fire Department's monthly training include:

- Quarterly Safety Training
- Quarterly Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Training
- Policy and Procedure/Operational Reviews
- Incident Command System/Incident Management
- Multi-Company Training with Hoquiam Fire Department
- Fire Apparatus Training
- Live Fire Evolutions
- Hazardous Materials Operations and Decontamination
- Emergency Vehicle Accident Prevention
- Basic and Advanced Life Support Emergency Medical Training.

The monthly in-house training program is designed by the Department's training team and is administered by the Department's Fire Captains. The Captains are responsible for ensuring the delivery of training to the members under their supervision. In 2012, members of the Aberdeen Fire Department performed a total of **3,302** hours of training. Of this number, **583** hours were done outside of the department while the remaining **2,720** hours were done in-house. All of this was done while keeping up with the Fire Department's increasing demand for service.





Training conducted by the firefighters of the Aberdeen Fire Department represents an average of 1,101 hours for each of the Department's three shifts, or 100 hours per firefighter for 2012.

The training performed covered a wide range of topics. Training is grouped into the following categories with their corresponding hours for record keeping purposes:

1. Administrative – **166 Hours** – This is training that deals with departmental organization, policies and executive management.
2. Apparatus – **377 Hours** – Training that covers the operating the various aspects of the department's firefighting vehicles.
3. Driver – **28 Hours** – Training, both in a classroom setting and out in the field that entails the actual driving of department apparatus.
4. EMS – **760 Hours** – Any training that covers items related to Emergency Medical Services.
5. Fire – **1,192 Hours** – Classes that covers the various aspects of firefighting including the area of building construction and the effects on firefighting efforts.
6. HazMat – **21 Hours** – Training that covers the firefighter's role in responding to incidents that involve Hazardous Materials.
7. Leadership – **103 Hours** – Any training that deals with the development of the leadership skills of the members of our department.
8. NIMS – **13 Hours** – Mandated training in the area of the National Incident Management System.
9. Rescue – **400 Hours** – Topics that cover the training in dealing with rescue situations, such as auto extrication.
10. Safety – **186 Hours** – General safety related training.
11. SCBA – **88 Hours** – This includes any training that has to deal with a firefighter's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.



2012 BENCHMARKS

A major benchmark for the Aberdeen Fire Department in 2012 was the successful training and certification testing of many of our members to become certified as "Firefighter I" by the Washington State Patrol/Fire Protection Services and the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). IFSAC is a peer driven, self-governing system that accredits public fire service certification programs. Fourteen individuals took part in this process, bringing the total number of Department members certified at the Firefighter I level to twenty-seven.

2013 GOALS

In 2013 the Training Teams hopes to not only continue to provide pertinent and worthwhile training, but to also continue within the IFSAC certification process. The Department currently has plans to conduct Firefighter II training and testing in the spring with the possibility of adding further IFSAC certified training programs in the future.

Aberdeen Fire Department Training
 Battalion Chief Lillybridge
 Captain Dave Golding
 Captain Wallace Montz
 Captain Kelly Niemi

2012 SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

The Aberdeen Fire Department Safety Committee uses continuous improvement processes to work towards eliminating the number and severity of injuries and illnesses to fire personnel during routine operations, training, and emergency responses. The Safety Committee promotes safety through situational awareness, training, standard operating procedures, and implements procedures and lessons learned through accident investigation.

Members of the Safety Committee include Battalion Chief Damon Lillybridge (Department Health and Safety Officer), Captain Dave Golding, Firefighter Jeremy Laier and Assistant Fire Chief Rich Malizia.

In 2012, the Department's Safety Officer processed 22 injury reports and 6 exposure reports involving department personnel. Both the injuries and exposures resulted in 13 shifts of missed work. Examples of injuries include back sprain/strain from lifting and moving patients, shoulder injuries during fire overhaul, knee injuries during fire scene operations, and blood borne exposures on EMS scenes.

Firefighters respond to incidents in all types of environmental conditions at any time of the day or night. Personal protective clothing and continuous training minimizes the risks of a firefighter being injured on the job; however, firefighting and EMS duties are often high hazard tasks with the potential for injury or exposure.

The year 2012 would be considered a transitional year for the Aberdeen Fire Department. Many changes have taken place including administrative changes, operational procedures, and personnel. It has been very busy, and through all of this I would like to take this opportunity to commend all personnel for their efforts and participation in helping to maintain an effective and progressive safety program. It goes without saying that training and safety are considered two of the most important aspects of our profession. It takes the cooperation and participation of all individuals involved to make the goals and objectives established through training and safety relevant to our Department needs as well as the needs of our community.

Overview of Safety Program involvement for 2012 includes:

- Asbestos Awareness Training for all personnel
- RIT, Mayday, & Firefighter Survival Training at an acquired structure
- Continued NIOSH case study reviews
- Annual Hearing Tests for all personnel
- June 2012 Safety Stand Down
- Review of all USFA firefighter Line of Duty Deaths
- Assistance to Firefighter Grant application for new PPE submitted by FF Swinhart.

Future goals for the Safety and Health Program for 2013 include:

- Compliance with existing as well as new L&I 305 Standards that may be implemented.
- Continued Safety Training.
- Building repair and modification to promote healthy work environment to include:
 - Replace rear apron concrete at HQ station.
 - Redesign and modification of the HQ downstairs administrative area to accommodate a functional training area.
 - Public Safety Grant for a new reader board.
 - Participation in the development of new Standard Operating Procedures that coincide with the existing Accident Prevention Program.

In conclusion, the goal of the Aberdeen Fire Department Safety Program is to provide a safe and healthy workplace environment by meeting, and in many cases, exceeding the recognized standards set forth by various government and private organizations to include OSHA, Labor & Industries, and the National Fire Protection Agency. To accomplish this goal, the Aberdeen Fire Department recognizes the need to utilize and apply risk analysis to day-to-day activities and emergency incident operations. Training also plays a vital role in an individual's ability to understand and perform his/her duties with safety as a priority. Effective management and consistency contribute to the continued development of individual safety awareness. The success of a Safety and Health Program can be measured through the attitudes and actions portrayed at both an individual level and a department as a whole. The Aberdeen Fire Department takes safety and health very seriously. We are committed to providing all individuals the mental and physical tools necessary to safely and effectively perform their duties and still walk away after each shift to enjoy the benefits of a normal and healthy quality of life.

Damon Lillybridge
Battalion Chief

2012 PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Public Education Division had another great year in 2012. The education of the citizens of Aberdeen about potential fire and life safety hazards and how to take action to avoid such hazards is extremely important. Our education efforts are intended to target all ages from early childhood to adults.

During National Fire Prevention Week firefighters visit all of the grade schools in Aberdeen. While at the schools children from kindergarten through third grade are taught about fire safety, home escape plans, smoke detectors, disaster awareness, and injury prevention. This year was a great success and as always the firefighters were received warmly by the Aberdeen School District and St. Mary's School.



As always we were able to provide the following public education services as part of our daily operations:

- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- Pre-School visits
- Smoke Detector Installations
- Bicycle Helmet Fitting
- Aberdeen School District Career Days
- Station Tours
- Blood Pressure checks
- Safety Fairs
- Public Presentations

We look forward to the coming year and the opportunity to once again share our important message of fire safety and injury prevention.

Captain Kelly Niemi
Public Education

2012 APPARATUS INVENTORY

Station 1 (Headquarters) 700 W. Market Street

UNIT	SHOP #	TYPE
Battalion 7232	93	2002 Ford Excursion 4X4 Command Unit
Truck 7221	91	2001 Pierce 105'HD Aerial-1500 GPM
Engine 7205	89	1994 Pierce 50'Telesquirt W/-1500 GPM
Engine 7204	87	1994 Pierce 1500 GPM Pumper
Utility 7261	150	2001 Ford/Horton Medic/Utility Unit
Medic 7241	152	2010 Ford/Horton/Braun Medic Unit
Medic 7243	151	2007 Ford/Horton Medic Unit
Medic 7244	141	2004 Ford/Horton Medic Unit
Chief 7251	140	2007 Ford F 150 Staff Vehicle
Chief 7200	149	2005 Crown Victoria Staff Vehicle
Fire Prevention	510	1998 Chevrolet Astro Van 2005 Cargo Mate – Decon. /MCI Trailer

Station 2 (South Aberdeen) 700 W. Curtis Street

UNIT	SHOP #	TYPE
Engine 7206	90	2001 Pierce 1500 GPM C.A.F.S. Pumper
Medic 7242	151	2009 Ford/Braun Northstar Medic Unit

All fire apparatus meet or exceed NFPA 1901 requirements for equipment, hose loads, and pumping capacity.

All ambulances meet or exceed Washington Department of Health requirements for Advanced Life Support transport ambulances.